

هكذا من الأمل

Callaghan due in Aswan Friday

LONDON, Jan. 9 (Agencies) — British Prime Minister James Callaghan is due to hold talks with President Sadat in Aswan on Friday evening while on his way back to London from a 10-day tour of the Indian sub-continent. Mr. Callaghan is reported to have discussed the Middle East with India's Prime Minister Morarji Desai. Mr. Callaghan also held discussions here with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin last month following President Sadat's peace initiative. Last night former British Prime Minister Edward Heath held talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad. He is to continue his private Middle East tour with a trip to Saudi Arabia.

JORDAN TIMES

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Cairo committee meets Jan. 11

CAIRO, Jan. 9 (R). — Egyptian War Minister General Mohammad Abdel-Ghani Gamassi will head a four-man delegation -- all generals -- at the joint Egyptian-Israeli military committee which meets here on Wednesday, the official Middle East News Agency (MENA) said today. MENA said the committee would discuss among other matters, a time-table for Israeli troop withdrawals from Sinai and the security measures needed during the evacuation. The Israeli delegation headed by Defence Minister Ezer Weizman was expected on Wednesday morning.

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Boumedienne arrives in Amman today

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (Agencies). — The Royal Hashemite Court announced today that President Houari Boumedienne of Algeria will arrive here Tuesday on a one-day visit during which he will hold talks with His Majesty King Hussein on "current developments in the Middle East and bilateral relations."

The Algerian president spent today in Qatar on the seventh leg of a tour of Arab capitals believed to be aimed at mobilising support against President Anwar Sadat's Middle East peace moves.

However, Gulf officials said the president's tour was evidence of flexibility among members of this front which also includes the PLO, Syria, South Yemen and the Libyan Jamahiriyyah.

In a joint statement in Doha, President Boumedienne and Sheikh Khalifa of Qatar stressed the need for "enhancing the unity of Arab ranks and mobilising Arab efforts to act jointly at this particularly sensitive stage."

They also "reaffirmed their support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the right of the Palestinians to self-determination and to set up an independent state," it added.

The president has visited Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and North and South Yemen in a tour which began last Tuesday.

He went on today to Kuwait, from where he will proceed tomorrow to Damascus and Amman.

Earlier today in Sana'a, North Yemen Foreign Minister Abdullah Asnaji described the talks between President Boumedienne and head of state Lt. Col. Ahmad Al Ghassemi as "extremely important." He said the two leaders had reaffirmed their support for the restoration of Arab solidarity and gave their full backing to the Arab cause.

King meets Imam Sadr

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (Agencies). — Imam Mousa Sadr, Chairman of the High Muslim Shiite Council called on His Majesty King Hussein today to review Arab affairs in general and the Lebanese situation in particular.

During the meeting the King expressed his country's eagerness about Lebanon's national unity and reconciliation after the Lebanese civil war.

Imam Mousa, who arrived here yesterday on a few days' visit, praised King Hussein's efforts to restore Arab solidarity in the face of the critical situation through which the Arab nation is passing.

Splinter Palestinian group suspected of Hammami assassination

BEIRUT, Jan. 9 (Agencies). — A Palestine commando leader hinted this weekend that an Iraqi-based Palestinian splinter group was under suspicion for the killing of Said Hammami, the Palestine Liberation Organisation Head in London.

Mr. Hammami PLO West Europe Representative and a moderate, was shot dead in his London office last Wednesday. The incident was touched on in Beirut Saturday in a speech to a PLO martyrs' day rally by Mr. Saleh Khalaf, the second man in Fatah which is the biggest commando group and to which Mr. Hammami belonged.

Mr. Khalaf said he did not want to prejudice the inquiry into the murder, but he went on to declare that "Fatah is bigger than the name of Abu Nidal."

"We accept that a martyr dies on the battlefield but we are not accustomed to treacherous bullets especially from dissident groups which we knew how to deal with," he said.

Abu Nidal leads an Iraqi-based Fatah splinter group. Mr. Hammami's body was flown yesterday to Amman for burial. The Mayor of Amman was among those who attended the ceremony to receive the body at the airport.

His Majesty King Hussein today offered his condolences to the widow of Mr. Hammami during a meeting at the Royal Hashemite Court.

U.S. House team due in Jordan

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — A 32-strong delegation from the U.S. House of Representatives International Relations Committee, headed by Congressman Clement Zablocki arrives here Wednesday on a three-day official visit.

The members of the delegation will meet His Majesty King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat Talhouk and a number of top Jordanian officials.

The delegation has already visited Egypt.



Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan gestures as he talks with his Italian counterpart Amadoro Forlani who met him at Clamping airport in Rome Monday on his arrival from Tel Aviv for official talks. (AP wirephoto)

Begin's plan "not nearly sufficient", British defence minister says

By Ian Kellas
Special to the Jordan Times.

AMMAN, Jan. 9 — There has been "general disappointment" at the prospect put forward by Prime Minister Menachem Begin at Ismailia; they are "not nearly sufficient," Britain's defence minister told the Jordan Times in an interview last night.

The Rt. Hon. Frederick Mulley, who flew to Amman on Saturday as the official guest of Premier and Defence Minister Mudar Badran, said that although he was not here to take part in the current peace negotiations, it was "interesting" to get the Jordanian assessment of the situation.

While here Mr. Mulley held talks with His Majesty King Hussein Prime Minister Badran and the Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker.

He made it clear during the interview that a successful Middle East peace settlement would have to be comprehensive and based on U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338. "Otherwise it will not be possible to have a settlement acceptable to all parties in the region," he said.

Mr. Mulley stressed that the first step was to reach agreement on basic principles covering the whole area. These must include:

- 1) Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories.
- 2) Recognition of "Palestinian rights and aspirations" and.
- 3) Participation by the Palestinians in determining their own future.

"Israel cannot expect to retain territories acquired by force. On the other hand it is only reasonable that she should equally be allowed peaceful development in a position of security," he said.

Mulley leaves

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — The United Kingdom's Minister of Defence Frederick Mulley and the accompanying delegation left here this morning for Athens and London after a two-day visit.

All countries want assurance of security

When asked if a Palestinian state would pose a security threat to Israel, Mr. Mulley replied: "All countries in the area -- not just Israel -- would want assurances that they would not be subject to terrorist activities or surprise attack." But he continued: "It is quite feasible that some arrangements can be worked out so that reasonable assurance can be given."

Asked what credit he gave to the view that Israel could not safely afford to surrender land so close to the Mediterranean, Mr. Mulley replied that this question had to be answered the other way round. There was no possibility of a settlement, he said, which did not adhere to U.N. resolutions which require territory to be given up.

Britain may help guarantee settlement

Mr. Mulley said it was "quite feasible" that Britain would help to guarantee a future peace settlement. He felt that there would be a period of transition and uncertainty in the early stages.

re would be a period of transition and uncertainty in the early stages.

Asked if he could envisage British troops being stationed as part of a U.N. peace-keeping force in this part of the world, Mr. Mulley said he "could consider it if it could happen." Britain "would not stand in the way of it," though he doubted if the U.N. itself would be keen to employ the troops of countries which had had territorial connections here in the past.

Mr. Mulley said that President Sadat has "very much advanced the timetable" of peace negotiations and has had "an immense impact on world opinion." He felt that the other Arab countries would wish to participate in so far as their own interests became involved.

"The question now," Mr. Mulley continued "is if the Israelis are able to respond."

He spoke of the "absolute necessity" of "very substantial concessions from both sides" if a settlement is to be reached. The Arabs had already made indications that they would recognise Israel's 1967 boundaries. A "very positive" reply was now called for from the Israelis, he said.

Israel unlikely to desire all-out war

I asked Mr. Mulley for his view on newspaper reports a while ago, which claimed that Israel had an overwhelming military superiority over the Arabs and would be in a position to launch a war of annihilation. The minister replied that it was unlikely that were the case, he spoke of substantial improvement in the Arab countries' defence arrangements and continued that it would be very surprising if the Israelis wished to attempt such a thing. "They, like everyone else, prefer to live with the certainty of peace. A war of that sort would mean the intervention of other powers."

Britain has recently concluded a massive deal with the Saudi Arabian air force, reportedly worth in excess of a billion dollars. Mr. Mulley has just come from Cairo where he signed another important agreement with The Arab Military Industries Organisation (AMIO).

Essence of British arms deal is technical assistance, not supply of equipment

I asked Mr. Mulley what the thinking was behind these deals. He commented that "very little in the way of actual weapons were involved. He said Britain was doing little in Saudi Arabia compared with the Americans or even the French, and that the emphasis in the British deals was on technical assistance and training."

He confirmed that Lynx helicopters and Swingfire missiles would be manufactured in Egypt under licence and with technical assistance from British Rolls Royce, he said, were still negotiating with the Egyptians about the possibility of overhauling their MIG jets.

(Continued on p. 3)

Sadat will accept 5-year transition to Palestinian self-determination

ASWAN, Egypt, Jan. 9 (R). — President Anwar Sadat, back from a visit to Egypt's close ally Sudan told reporters yesterday he would accept a five-year transition period leading to self-determination for Palestinians. He was commenting on a suggestion by President Carter for an interim solution to the Palestinian problem by creating a joint administration for the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Carter mentioned the possibility of Israel, Jordan, the Palestinians and perhaps the United Nations participating in such an administration for an unspecified period after which the Palestinians would have the right to determine their own future.

Mr. Sadat said he had not yet received such proposals, but added: "In principle, I agree to self-determination." This could take place over a period of time. "Five years or so," he added.

U.S. House committee chairman says Congress for limited Palestinian self-determination

Meanwhile Chairman Clement Zablocki of the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee said there was substantial support in Congress for Palestinian self-determination.

Mr. Zablocki, who is heading a group of 15 congressmen on a Middle East tour, was briefing reporters on the tour. He said self-determination was a prerequisite for a solution to the Middle East conflict.

But he said self-determination did not mean the creation of a Palestinian state and that in any case it was his understanding that it would take seven or perhaps 10 years to develop an independent Palestinian state.

Mr. Zablocki, whose delegation had talks with President Sadat on Saturday, said the Egyptian leader left the impression that Israel did not wish to be side-tracked on the issue of its settlements in Sinai or elsewhere, and intended to continue to concentrate on the main objective of an overall peace settlement.

President Sadat went on to say that there was no problem with Israel concerning withdrawal from the occupied Sinai Peninsula.

"The backbone of the full settlement is the Palestinian question, and that must be settled," the Egyptian leader declared.

Shah holds talks with Sadat on Mideast peace

ASWAN, Jan. 9 (R). — President Anwar Sadat today discussed Middle East peace moves with the Shah of Iran as Egypt and Israel exchanged sharply worded statements concerning Israeli settlements in the Sinai desert.

The Shah was given a warm welcome here. Schoolgirls waving Egyptian and Iranian flags shouted in English "Welcome. Welcome Shahinshah" and sang songs in Persian, Arabic and Nubian welcoming him.

The Shah is one of the few Middle East leaders who have come out strongly in support of Mr. Sadat's peace moves. Informed sources said their private talks were part of the quiet diplomacy the two leaders planned to solve the Middle East conflict.

The Shah told reporters on arrival: "I have come to express my feelings of deep admiration and friendship to President Sadat. These are historical moments, we hope that what your president is trying to do will be fruitful and bring peace and stability to the region."

Asked about his forthcoming talks with Mr. Sadat, the Shah said: "We are definitely interested to see a final settlement. I think that Egypt is doing precisely what we believe is right. This is to implement Resolution 242 and 338 -- the U.N. Security Council's long-standing guidelines for peace in the Middle East."

The Shah's one-day visit here will be followed by talks with King Khaled in Saudi Arabia -- a key country in any Middle East peace settlement because of its influence in the Arab World.

"We have had many meetings with our Saudi friends. I thought it was an opportune moment to pay a visit to Khaled," the Shah said.

Asked whether Iran was directly or indirectly involved in Middle East peace efforts, the Shah said: "You can't say we are not involved directly. How could you say that? It's our area and especially as many of the countries involved are our Moslem brothers."

King Hassan of Morocco due in Egypt

CAIRO, Jan. 9 (AFP). — King Hassan of Morocco will visit Egypt in late January, the Middle East News Agency reported today in a story datelined Aswan.

Cairo and Rabat are currently discussing the exact date for the visit, the agency added.

Herut Party endorses Begin's peace plan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 9 (R). — Prime Minister Menachem Begin early this morning won backing for his Middle East peace plan from his right-wing Herut Party, which forms the heart of the Likud Bloc. The party is split over whether new Jewish settlements should be set up on occupied Arab land.

The Centre Committee of Herut, main partner in the ruling coalition, voted 168-15 for Mr. Begin's proposals to grant self-rule for Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to return the Sinai Peninsula to Egyptian sovereignty.

The approval came after a stormy seven-hour session in which Mr. Begin took a tough line against President Anwar Sadat's warning that Egypt would not let Jewish settlements remain on its soil.

Mr. Begin said that if Mr. Sadat persists in his refusal, he might modify his peace proposals.

The Herut vote for Mr. Begin was less impressive than the figures indicated. By the time a ballot was taken in the early morning hours, most of the 700 committee members had left for home.

Opposition leader Shimon Peres expressed support tonight for the government's plan to strengthen Israeli settlements in Sinai.

Addressing a Tel Aviv meeting of the Labour Party, which he heads, Mr. Peres said a total Israeli withdrawal from the area would "weaken our national security."

"The government must be supported in its plan to strengthen our settlements and against any move to get us to pull back to the 1967 border," he said.

The Labour Party's number

Ecevit heralds hopes for new Cyprus talks

ANKARA, Jan. 9 (R). — Turkey's new premier, Mr. Bulent Ecevit, indicated today that he will press for resumption of intercommunal talks on the divided island of Cyprus.

Turkish Cypriots should take the initiative to get negotiations with the Greek Cypriots restarted, Mr. Ecevit said, and promised the Ankara government will encourage them.

Mr. Ecevit, who took office for the third time on Thursday, spoke to a press conference after two days of talks here with U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

Mr. Waldheim told reporters that he was encouraged because the new administration seemed to be taking a "more concrete approach to the Cyprus problem."

Mr. Waldheim said that new talks could be scheduled in February or March, probably in Vienna.

Mr. Ecevit said today he wanted a constitutional solution based on a bi-regional federal state -- a formula rejected yesterday by Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou as meaning "the ruin of Cyprus" and "a source of continuous friction."

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Sociologist will probe controversial plan to move bedouin out of Petra ruins

By Susan Bakderstone

Special to the Jordan Times
 The problem of rationalising conflicting philosophies, which naturally come to the surface during tourist development at archaeological sites, is getting a great deal of attention during the Petra Development Project.

Final sketch plans for the new hotel and restaurant tourist complex at Petra were completed recently. The director of the Petra and Jerash Development Project, Mr. Yousef el Alami, told the Jordan Times that provided these were approved by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, and by the World Bank, which is providing half the finance for the project, final documents for calling tenders will be ready by the end of April.

On the restoration question, the problem is the degree to which monuments should be restored. It is necessary from the tourists' point of view to do more than merely consolidate the existing structures and make them safe. Another problem is also bound up with the need for preservation of the monuments. It is the proposed resettlement of the bedouin community at present in Petra.

As well, there is the problem of the development of the community itself. While the standard of living amongst the rest of Jordan's bedouin is gradually rising it has to be assumed that the community within Petra will eventually expect the same housing and services as are being provided elsewhere.

Exploratory excavations will begin in January under the supervision of Dr. Fawzi Zayadine to determine the state of the base walls and the footing structure. It is proposed in this case to carry out only as much reconstruction as is necessary to make the structure safe. The emphasis will be on consolidating the existing structure so as to prevent further deterioration. The tourist in this case will be able to indulge his imagination in romantic contemplation of how the temple once was, instead of having it reconstructed for him. Alternatively he could look up the reconstruction drawing in the guide book, which is to be produced in English, French and German, as well as Arabic and will have maps and descriptions of the monuments.

Nazzal's camp will be demolished and housing for Department of Tourism and Antiquities staff will be provided adjacent to the new hotel outside Petra. It has been decided to site the restaurant opposite the present Nazzal's camp, a short distance up Wadi Al Dair. It will be raised above water level and check dams will be built at intervals along the wadi to control run-off. Two other possible sites were considered but rejected for various reasons, including that they were in too conspicuous a position or too close to important archaeological remains. In addition to restaurant, kitchen and toilet facilities, the building will contain facilities for archaeologists who will carry out future excavations at the site. These include a small theatre, classroom, and antiquity repair rooms. It is thought that for short periods of excavation, usually one or two months, the "dig" teams may live in this building, or at least camp nearby and use the facilities.



Mr. Yasser Sheikh and Mr. Ismael Kadrey (centre) receive instructions from Mrs. Alice Pickering on care of new braille watches she presented on Jan. 7. The watches which enable the blind to tell time are a gift of the Zale Co. and were made available to Mrs. Pickering through the U.S. State Dept. Mrs. Pickering is honorary president of American Women of Amman and wife of the American ambassador to Jordan. Mr. Kadrey is chairman of the Friendship Association for the Blind. The Association is training 40 blind students in office skills such as typing and operating switchboards and Teletype machines. Mr. Sheikh has already placed seven blind graduates in jobs in which they are self-sufficient.

Here the base structure of barrel vaults which supported the monumental staircase - in Byzantine times is being reconstructed under the supervision of Department of Antiquities archaeologist Mr. Mohammad Murshed. This has been felt to be necessary in order for the tourist to be able to truly appreciate how the Urn Tomb was when it was used in the fifth century A.D. as a Christian cathedral. It is also today the main access to the tomb. However the original Nabataean (1st C. A.D.) staircase still exists, providing a less obvious and dramatic approach from the south, but equally significant historically for the tourist.

The difficulty is in deciding how much of the former should be restored at the possible expense of the later. In addition the actual reconstruction work becomes extremely difficult to do well when new materials have to be used and a distinct difference between original and restored is unavoidable. It is conceivable that this could detract from, rather than add to the tourists' appreciation of the building.

The problem of the bedouin community is considerably more complex. The World Bank report, which forms the basis for the allocation of funds to the project, proposes the bedouins should be resettled outside Petra. This is mainly because with their increase of population has come rapidly increased erosion, due to the greater numbers of sheep and goats living off available vegetation.

With nothing to bind the sand, loose tinsol is lifted by the wind and together wind and sand have a sand-blasting effect on the ancient sculptures, gradually weathering away the detail. The Corinthian Tomb at Petra shows the effect of this severe weathering.

Considerable criticism has been made of the proposal to move the bedouins out. Claiming to be descendants of the original Nabataean inhabitants of the site they belong to the Bdul tribe which traditionally has not had good relations with the mixture of tribes which live outside Petra in Wadi Musa.

No detailed study was made at the time of the original report of this factor, or of the actual number of inhabitants, future requirements and occupations etc. Crown Prince Hassan has asked that the whole question be reassessed, and an Egyptian sociologist, appointed by UNESCO is expected shortly in Jordan to carry out a survey.

In the meantime consolidation work is proceeding at Petra under the overall direction of architect Mr. Colin Brooker who is working for the Department of Antiquities. Apart from the Urn Tomb, the current most urgent project is the shoreline up of the Nabataean temple known as the Kasr al Bint.

During a recent site inspection by Mr. Al Alami and the Director of Antiquities, Dr. Adnan Hadidi, at which the Jordan Times was present, Mr. Brooker pointed out that some sections are rapidly deteriorating and the structure becoming unsafe.

Two possible sites are being considered for the resettlement. One is Umm Shihoun, visible to the northeast from inside Petra, the other is between Baida and Petra. The bedouin will be able to go into the ruins every day to work there, but they would live and sleep outside.

A proposal being considered for the future is to convey visitors into Petra by specially designed horse-drawn carriages. A restaurant cum research centre is to be the only new building inside Petra itself.

Visitors will continue to approach the "sig" by the present route. The floor of the site itself will be graded and surfaced with stabilised gravel. Telecommunications and power lines at present suspended aerially will be laid underground.

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National News Roundup

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RAI, on Monday, said Israel has officially exposed its intention to colonise occupied Arab territories thus ignoring all international efforts to establish a just peace in the Middle East. We have often pointed out that Israel prefers to retain control of the land and would not mind it if it can also have peace as long as the Arab position is as weak as it is now. One cannot expect this Israeli farce of pursuing peace negotiations while at the same time planning more Jewish settlements in the occupied territories to continue. This Israeli attitude will have a cause an Arab reappraisal soon such that the Arabs would not have to lament when it is too late.

Sheikh Sorour leaves

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — The Head of the United Arab Emirates Presidential Court Sheikh Sorour Ibn Mohammad left here today after a two-day visit, during which he held talks with His Majesty King Hussein, the commander-in-chief of the armed forces and top officials on the latest Middle East developments and bilateral relations. He was seen off at Amman airport by the Court Minister, the Royal Court's Secretary General and the UAE ambassador to Jordan.

Green Jubilee committee meets

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — The cultural committee for the green jubilee project discussed ways of encouraging people to support this project and to implement other forestry projects during a meeting on Sunday.

Minister visits Saudi Arabia

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — The Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh left here for Riyadh on Sunday for a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia, at the invitation of the Saudi minister of information. During his visit Mr. Abu Odeh will discuss with the Saudi officials means of strengthening bilateral media cooperation. Meanwhile, the government named the Minister of Culture and Youth, Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf as the acting minister of information, during Mr. Abu Odeh's absence.

Jordan for Cairo conference

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — Jordan will take part in the seminar on education, culture and science to be held in Cairo on Jan. 10. During its nine-day meetings the seminar will discuss means of using natural resources.

Swedish envoy on special mission

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JT). — Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhouni received in his office on Sunday the Swedish Foreign Ministry Secretary-General and Vice Minister, Mr. Sverker Astrom. They discussed bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by the Swedish ambassador in Amman, Mr. Astrom is on a "special mission" to Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Iraq to discuss the Middle East situation and intensifying bilateral relations. On Sunday the Jordan News Agency in Arabic referred to Mr. Astrom as the Swiss ambassador-at-large. In translation we perpetuated the error of both nationality and title. Our apologies for any inconvenience or embarrassment this caused those concerned.

Department receives books

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — The Department of Culture and Arts today received a gift of books from the British Council. The gift, which was presented by the representative of the British Council in Amman, Mr. John Mills, included the Encyclopaedia Britannica and a collection of cultural and technical books.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Today, and until Friday evening, the Goethe Institute is holding an exhibition of children's books and a collection of posters for children. The exhibition is open daily from 10-12 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. During the exhibition, a film for children will be shown daily at 4 p.m.



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NOTICE

On the occasion of the foundation of the American University of Cairo's alumni club, all men and women graduates are requested to telephone 39659 or 25622, Amman, or write to P.O. Box 2077, Jabal Amman, giving their full addresses and telephone numbers so as to enable the constituent body to get in contact with them.

The Club Constituent Body

Crown Prince Hassan opens chambers of commerce and industry conference

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan opened the tenth annual Conference of the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Sunday.

Addressing the conference, the prince stressed the importance of the coordination of efforts between the industrial, commercial and agricultural institutions for the establishment of a strong economy.

Prince Hassan also stressed the importance of such meetings because they are effective in finding solutions to the problems facing the development of the country.

He also reviewed the stages of development of the Jordanian economy and the difficulties which were overcome by a strong will of those who are in building this economy.

Pressures under occupation

His Highness referred to the pressures the Israeli government is exerting on Arabs living under the Israeli occupation. He said that the meeting will discuss ways of reducing this pressure, the prince added.

The Minister of Industry and Trade, Najmeddine Dajani, then addressed the conference. He referred to the first two years of the five-year plan. He said that the achievements included the implementation of the Jordan Valley project, the potash project, the Aqaba coast project and several electricity projects.

He also briefed them on the industry's policy concerning economic cooperation, imports and exports. He thanked the private institutions for the constructive role they have played in carrying out several industrial, tourist and commercial projects.

Committees formed

Then the chairman of the Chambers of Commerce Union addressed the conference. In his speech he thanked Prince Hassan for the role he has played in implementing various development projects.

Then Prince Hassan presented a cup to the Zarqa Chamber

of Commerce for the services it has provided.

The opening ceremony was attended by a number of Cabinet ministers, senior officials and people interested in commerce.

The conference held its first working session yesterday afternoon and formed three committees to discuss supply issues, the development of production goods and the preparation for making Jordan an international commercial centre.

Prince in industrial committee

Today, Prince Hassan participated in the work of the industrial committee of the conference where he indicated the necessity of noting all suggestions that are put forward in such seminars with the participation of all public and private bodies and institutions concerned, in order to avoid repetition and duplication in future conferences and seminars.

He also suggested establishment of a high-quality quarterly magazine to report events under discussion, ensuring appropriate coordination among operational economic and social sectors.

"Such a procedure would ensure finding positive and swift solutions to all problems facing these two sectors, and, consequently, boost production and achieve more income for the people and the state alike," the Prince said.

The three committees emanating from the conference had resumed their work this morning. The industrial committee discussed a working paper put by the Amman Chamber of Industry which includes a topic on developing the industrial sector in the Kingdom. Issues and difficulties by industrial development were reviewed.

Practical response

The demands of industry were reviewed and debated in the presence of the industrialists. Thus the conference have practically and positively responded to Prince Hassan's indication that there should always be continuous meetings between the public and private sectors

to deal with issues touching the life of Jordanian citizens.

Also discussed were achievements in the field of industry and consolidation between economic and social development, expansion of basis of cooperation between the public and private sectors, industrial security, labour safety, personnel training and import/export questions.

A number of issues related to promotion of commodity production sectors were debated. These include organisational and procedural points on a draft bill for the Amman Chamber of Commerce or the Jordanian Industries Union.

Reduced customs

The question of reducing customs dues on imported raw materials and local industrial products was also discussed.

The commercial committee discussed the basic structure for service of commercial activity, particularly as regards sea and air transport and commu-

nications, as well as finding good markets for Jordanian goods abroad.

The committee further debated development of economic legislations in Jordan so as to provide a proper climate to make Jordan a centre for international trade.

The finance committee discussed two working papers put by the Ministry of Supply and the Chambers of Commerce Association respectively.

A debate was made on consumer supply issues in Jordan within the context of their prices, availability in local markets, and how the Ministry of Supply is functioning in providing the principal consumer goods, and supervising their prices.

The conference also discussed direct causes for the high cost of living in Jordan, especially the supply commodities, as well as supply policy now in pursuit to classify goods and services and understand factors that help increase their production and supply.

Commerce minister in talks with W. Bankers

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Najmeddine Dajani discussed with West Bank chambers of commerce representatives memoranda put by the representatives attending the Tenth Conference of the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce and Industry now sitting here.

Dr. Dajani said the memoranda dealt with the economic situation of West Bank farmers, as well as problems related to factories established there after 1976, together with the economic and financial results undergone by the Westerners by the floating of the Israeli pound, and high prices.

These subjects will be thoroughly discussed within the Executive Committee for Occupied Territories Affairs and the four member committee co-

posed of the Ministries of Industry and Commerce, Finance, Agriculture and the Executive Committee for the Occupied Territories Affairs, the Minister of Industry and Commerce said. The two committees will submit their recommendations to the Higher Committee for the Occupied Territories and Affairs, for consideration.

Dr. Dajani said the delegation expressed thanks and appreciation for the Jordanian government's efforts to bolster steadfastness of the people in the occupied areas and enable them to continue their economic activities.

The meeting was attended by Under-Secretary of the Industry Ministry, Dr. Hashem Dabbas, and Director of the Executive Bureau of the Occupied Territories Affairs, Shawkat Mahmoud.

New Arab-British centre aims to promote greater friendship

LONDON (LPS). — A new centre designed to promote greater friendship and understanding between the Arab countries and Britain was opened officially in London recently.

Well established organisations pledged to increasing the goodwill between the world of Islam and Britain have moved their offices into this state early Victorian building at 21 Collingham Road, Kensington. On the outside the new beige and white paintwork and a plaque announcing The Arab-British Centre distinguish the building from its neighbours in this residential district of London, to which the many hotels attract overseas businessmen.

The organisations now established there are the Anglo-Arab Association, which dates back to 1946; the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding, which was set up in 1967 and is known as CAABU; Middle East International, a monthly publication; the Labour Middle East Council; the Arab Charitable Trust; Palestine Medical Aid; and the Arab Women's Organisation.

Classes in Arabic

The Women's Organisation has started holding classes in Arabic for women — although most of the students so far are children — and it is hoped to launch a similar course for men at a later date.

The director general of the centre, Mr. John Reddaway, made it clear that CAABU's approach is primarily political. Mr. Reddaway spent most of his earlier career in government service in Cyprus where he became administrative secretary and he has a wide knowledge of Arab countries.

When CAABU inaugurated, one of its aims, as drawn up by its members, was stated as follows: "We have sympathy for the aspirations, achievements and rights of the Arab peoples, especially the Arabs of Palestine, for whose administration Britain was responsible until 1948."

Mr. Reddaway said: "We do not have the resources for a mass approach to the British people, but we put forward CAABU's point of view at every opportunity. We publish pamphlets and write letters to the press. We provide speakers and a whole range of information, even to teachers' notes on the Middle East."

10 ambassadors

And CAABU's annual report for 1975-1976 makes this comment: "When CAABU was formed eight years ago, at a low ebb in Britain's relations with the Arab World, there were only a half a dozen Arab ambassadors in London. Today there are 19 — and we believe we can say without presumption that the existence of CAABU and all that it represents has been one factor making for the marked improvement in contact and understanding which this symbolises."

Mr. Douglas Collard, Executive Director of the Anglo-Arab Association, is also librarian for the fine collection of books — the nucleus of which was contributed by CAABU. Mr. Collard retired from Britain's Foreign and Commonwealth Office last year and has extensive experience of Arab countries.

In the quiet and graceful library Mr. Collard explained: "Our association is entirely non-political. We were founded to foster better understanding through cultural and soci-

al links between the Arab World and the United Kingdom."

Cultural exchanges

"In particular we arrange cultural and academic exchanges in both directions. We feel that such exchanges are a major contribution to better understanding, especially at this time when the oil producing Arab states are playing such a major part in world development."

The Arab ambassadors in London extend their patronage to the association which is financed not only with Arab money but by contributions from a number of British companies with interests in the Middle East.

"Middle East International", whose editorial offices are housed in the new centre, is a publication of primarily political and economic interest. It is edited by Mr. Michael Adams, who is Director of Information and a member of the Executive Committee of CAABU. He is a journalist with more than 20 years experience

of the Middle East.

The publication has a circulation approaching 8,000 — one third of it in Britain, one third in North America and the remainder principally in the Arab countries.

Represents M.P.s

The Administrative Secretary to the Labour Middle East Council, Mrs. June Ward, also has an office at 21 Collingham Road. Founded in 1969, her organisation represents some 50 Members of Parliament (M.P.s) who are members of the Labour Party. It also represents a considerable weight of opinion from the trades union and cooperative movements in Britain. The council's present chairman is Mr. David Watkins M.P.

All these organisations will benefit from the acquisition of the premises at 21 Collingham Road, which are spacious enough to provide ample accommodation for meetings and receptions. In addition there are two attractively furnished self-contained flats at the top of the building for the use of visitors.



Mr. Douglas Collard, Executive Director of the Anglo-Arab Association, is also librarian for the association's fine collection of books. He is holding here an art book showing the 15th century Mausoleum of Qasr el Yeh in Cairo.

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Brzezinski: Indochina clash "a war by proxy" between USSR, China

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9 (Agencies). — U.S. Presidential Adviser on National Security Zbigniew Brzezinski says the border clash between Vietnam and Cambodia is in fact "a war by proxy" between the Soviet Union and China. Mr. Brzezinski said in a television interview yesterday there were no intelligence reports to suggest that there were Soviet or Chinese advisors in the field in Indochina. "The Cambodians, however, claim that there are, and the fact that they are claiming it is itself politically important, even if untrue," he added.

In the first public comment on the Vietnamese-Cambodian border clash by a senior U.S. official Mr. Brzezinski said: "I find it very interesting, primarily as the first case" of inter-communist fighting. "The Vietnamese are, clearly, supported by the Soviets politically

and equally the Chinese support the Cambodians," he said. He declined to answer further questions on the subject but said he did not necessarily believe that the border clash would lead to further friction along the frontier. Meanwhile, in Peking, Cam-

bodian authorities claimed today that their troops are in control of the two main highways in the Parrot's Beak including the road to Ho Chi Minh City. A Cambodian Embassy official in Peking said in a bulletin on the situation in Svay Rieng Province that on Friday the Khmer army reached the northern border of the Parrot's Beak.

The bulletin said fighting was continuing in Bavel Loeu, south of national Highway One, but that the rest of the region had been "fully liberated".

Gandhi hears charges of "excessive rule"

NEW DELHI, Jan. 9 (AFP). — Former Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi appeared before the Shah Inquiry Commission here today to answer charges of "excesses" committed by her emergency government during 1975-76.

The commission, led by Justice J. C. Shah, held its hearings behind a strong security screen with mounted and riot police keeping watch near the building.

Police said 25 people, who were shouting slogans in support of Mrs. Gandhi, were arrested when they tried to break a police cordon near the gate. They were later released.

Mrs. Gandhi herself did not speak during the day-long proceedings and let her counsel, Frank Anthony, argue at length about what he called "the campaign of political vendetta" against Mrs. Gandhi by the present government.

He also questioned the legality of the proceedings like Mrs. Gandhi had done on two previous occasions in written statements after she refused to appear before the commission. Mr. Anthony also charged that Mrs. Gandhi had already been tried by the "newspapers" and "jeered and sneered at by the people."

Justice Shah said he was not questioning the declaration of the emergency by the former president -- on the advice of Mrs. Gandhi -- and its enactment by parliament but was only trying to see if there were enough grounds for such a declaration.

He also said he was giving Mrs. Gandhi a chance to answer allegations made against her before he decided if there was a prima facie case of excess against her.

The hearing is to resume tomorrow when Mrs. Gandhi is again expected to be present.

U.S.-Israeli defence talks in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV, Jan. 9 (AFP). — William Perry, Research and Development chief at the American Defence Department, arrived here yesterday "to develop a cooperative defence programme with Israel." He will meet senior Israeli Defence officials during a visit expected to last several days. Israeli Defence circles said his talks could determine American response to Israeli requests for military equipment and technological cooperation. Israeli Defence Minister Ezer Weizman is to visit Washington soon.

London's Syrian Embassy men reportedly blew themselves up

LONDON, Jan. 9 (R). — The London Sunday Times said yesterday that the two Syrian Embassy staff killed by a car bomb in London on New Year's Eve were priming the device when it exploded.

The paper said British security men were working on the theory that the two men planned to blow up the nearby Egyptian Tourist Office.

But Syrian Embassy Press Attache Michael Wehbeh told the paper the theory was "nonsense and shameful".

According to the Sunday Times, British security police have evidence that Fayed Shibly, the embassy chauffeur who died in the blast, was trained as an agent in Moscow.

And the paper added, the other dead man, Medical Attache Jawdat Awad, was listed by security men here as a member of Syrian Intelligence. Traces of Russian explosives

were found in the wrecked car, said the paper, which also noted that a bomb found outside the Egyptian Embassy in Bonn last week, and defused, was also made with Russian explosives.

Police have already established that the London bomb weighed between 500 to 750 grams and that it was inside the car.

The Sunday Times said it was inconceivable that, because of its size, the two men could not have known the package was there, and about this Mr. Wehbeh told the paper: "I cannot answer such questions."

Hammami an informer?

In the Sunday Mirror, reporter John Knight said that Said Hammami, the Palestine Liberation Organisation representative shot dead here last

Wednesday, was a police informer on Arab "terrorism".

Knight said that Mr. Hammami and British journalist David Holden, murdered in Cairo in December, were both killed by the same extremist organisation.

He said that the two men had worked closely together exchanging information. "They were regarded as the two top experts on the Palestinian extremists," he added.

In the last two weeks Knight has given information to British and Egyptian police about Mr. Holden's death.

Knight wrote that Hammami was the latest man to be killed by "a unit known as the Nov. 19 Avengers, dedicated to abort any peace settlement in the Middle East."

Nov. 19 was the date President Anwar Sadat of Egypt began his historic trip to Israel last year.

U.K. envoy rebuffs Smith's plans for internal settlement

PRETORIA, Jan. 9 (AFP). — Lord Carver, Britain's Commissioner-designate for Rhodesia, today rejected Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith's internal settlement plans and said the Anglo-American proposals were still very much alive.

Lord Carver was giving a press conference here after a meeting with South Africa's Foreign Minister P. W. Botha.

He said any agreement which did not include all interested parties in Rhodesia would not be recognised internationally and has little chance of ending the guerrilla war.

Mr. Smith is currently engaged in negotiations with "moderate" African leaders in Rhodesia, including Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole. But an internal settlement has been rejected by Mr. Joshua Nkomo and Mr. Robert Mugabe whose Patriotic Front is leading the guerrilla war from outside Rhodesia.

Salisbury talks held

Meanwhile, Mr. Smith held talks lasting more than three hours in Salisbury today with the leaders of the three "moderate" black delegations taking part in internal political settlement negotiations.

The meeting was the second of its kind, called by Mr. Smith in an attempt to break the deadlock in the full sessions of the talks over the question of the number of seats the country's whites will have in parliament after the advent of black rule.

No statement was issued after today's session and the delegates made no comment as they left the meeting, held at Mr. Smith's official residence in Salisbury.

No date has been set for the next full session of the talks. It is understood that this will depend largely on the results of the private meetings of heads of delegations.

Delegation leader the Sithole said at the time that he was "very optimistic about a breakthrough being achieved this week on the elementary representation issue."

Anti-racist leader killed in S. Africa

DURBAN, South Africa (Agencies). — Dr. E. Turner, a leading opponent of apartheid, was shot dead in his home here Saturday.

Dr. Turner, a 36-year-old Political Sciences professor at the University of Natal, was placed under government banning order which was due to expire February.

Police said that Dr. Turner was awakened soon after midnight by knocks on the door of his house and was dead with a single bullet wound in the chest.

His two small daughters witnessed the assassination. Dr. Turner had written racist analyses of the African society which banned in this country published abroad.

Despite the banning he had not repented of his convictions.

Friends of Dr. Turner today blamed his murder on extreme-rightist militant. A friend of Dr. Turner asked to remain anonymous said AFP that Dr. Turner was a white liberal.

He was the founder of the Consciousness movement which died in police custody September -- was to be

Carter's tour was a trifle too ambitious

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9 (R). — President Carter's grueling seven-nation tour seems to have been a case of trying to do too much in too short a time.

The results were a mixed bag of achievements, disappointments and unexpected mishaps, drawing criticism as well as praise.

When Mr. Carter left Washington on the nine-day trip he led a crusade for democracy and had a burning desire to improve a complicated and disparate world.

His own assessment, in an interview while he was flying home, was that he was unable to judge whether he had made an impact or not.

The encouragement of human rights and his insistence that democracy was the only course for developing as well as industrialised countries were the principal themes of the 18,000-mile tour.

In Iran and Poland, he apparently decided that the pragmatic need to cooperate militarily with the Shah and encourage independence in Eastern Europe had to come first.

Human rights vs. policy

The president said before he left that he intended to take up human rights when he visited Poland and Iran.

But with Poland viewed by American officials as a relatively open society, he chose to praise its accomplishments instead of what are, judged by Western standards, its shortcomings.

In yet another sign that he was toning down his human rights campaign to take into account the realities involved in conducting foreign affairs, he said that Poland had the best human rights record in Eastern Europe, with reasonable freedom of the press and religion.

Despite his heavy emphasis elsewhere on human rights, the issue was barely mentioned in Iran, where alleged violations have given the Shah a bad press in the United States.

In his homeward-bound interview, the president, who has called Iran a highly important ally safeguarding peace and security in the Gulf, said the Shah was very deeply concerned about human rights.

He likened the situation in Iran, where the Savak secret police were highly visible to the presidential party and reporters last week, to the anti-Communist hysteria that swept the United States for more than a decade after World War II.

"The basic problem in Iran is that the laws that we have enforced in the past," he said. "The soft-pedalling of human rights in Poland and Iran reflected a change in his think-

ing, which became clear after he had directly criticised the Soviet Union, that the issue is only one element in foreign policy no matter how zealous he wants to protect these rights.

Iran, for instance, is important to the United States because of oil, its recent successful opposition to oil price increases by OPEC, and its security role in the Gulf.

The president's most notably success was in New Delhi, where he lauded Indians for ousting ex-Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, whose suspension of civil liberties and alleged tilt to the Soviet Union deeply alarmed the United States.

Gaffes galore

But it was also in India that there was a gaffe of the kind that frequently causes a serious international incident.

Prime Minister Morarji Desai chose to ignore it and joined Mr. Carter in saying they had established a close personal relationship.

The bungle was the taping, unknown to Mr. Carter, of a whispered order to Secretary

of State Cyrus Vance to send a "cold and very blunt letter" to Mr. Desai about nuclear policy.

It was one of several mishaps that led to criticism that the president's tour was such a poorly planned, overly ambitious hodgepodge that mistakes were bound to creep in.

The trip planners were an early target because of the choice of a translator who, translating arrival remarks by the president in Warsaw, quoted him as saying he had "left the United States for ever" and that he wanted to learn about the "just" of the Poles.

The president himself was ridiculed for his answer when asked about Poland's "domination" by the Soviet Union.

His reply was: "This is obviously a decision for the Polish leaders and the Polish people to make."

The Washington Star commented: "To say that the Poles looking down the barrels of 60,000 Russian rifles are in a position to decide for themselves on greater freedom, to characterise the Russian yoke as a state of being 'bound' closely to the Soviet Union — these must rank high among

all-time presidential fatalities, not forgetting Calvin Coolidge's remark that 'when many people are out of work, unemployment results'."

There were successes...

On the other hand, the president made a big impact elsewhere, especially in France where his visit put the seal on improved relations after years of suspicion and hostility marked by a determined French effort to reduce U.S. leadership and influence in Europe.

French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing took him to Normandy to see the Omaha Invasion Beach of World War II and stressed in many other ways the old comradeship and historic friendship between the United States and France, its oldest ally.

A hastily-arranged meeting with President Anwar Sadat in Aswan apparently mollified the Egyptian leader, who had said that Mr. Carter's antipathy to an independent Palestinian state had complicated the search for a settlement in the Middle East.

Mr. Carter's verdict on his tour was that it was a great success.

"I wanted to protect the image of a nation that stands for what is right and decent and good, strengthen the concept of democracy, both in the developing and developed nations, and try to make progress in resolving the Middle Eastern dispute," he said.

Although he was not sure that his message of democracy had reached everybody's ear, "I think we put forward the image of a nation that is strong and secure and self-confident but which doesn't have to prove its strength by taking advantage of others who are not as strong or as secure as we are."

One major problem during the nine days of the trip was the virtually around-the-clock operation that exhausted the White House staff and press.

The president took note of the punishing pace and promised to make amends.

"I'm always taken care of," he said. "I can go to bed and sleep. You all have to file your stories and get up and be ready to emerge the following morning."

"I think that factor is one we will consider in future."

World News Briefs

Taiwan still thwarts U.S.-Chinese ties

HONG KONG, Jan. 9 (AFP). — U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy said on arrival from China today that there was no progress resolving the Taiwan issue, the main obstacle to normal relations between Washington and Peking. Sen. Kennedy spent 10 days in China at the invitation of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, met several Chinese leaders, his stay in Peking. He told a press conference at the Peking Institute of Foreign Affairs, that it was a tragedy of history that diplomatic relations had been interrupted between the United States for almost 30 years. But that "the obstacle to normalisation is the future of the 16 million on Taiwan," he said, adding: "I did not expect and report progress in resolving that issue."

Polisario reports on December's action

ALGIERS, Jan. 9 (AFP). — Saharan nationalist guerrilla put more than 1,500 Moroccan and Mauritanian troops action last month while French planes bombed a Saharan camp in "occupied Western Saharan territory," the Polisario movement Polisario said here yesterday. In a monograph giving a detailed assessment of its military operations in the Western Sahara, Mauritania and southern Morocco, the Polisario said that 22 Saharan nationalists were in the French air raids on the camp, near Zoug, on Dec. 19 was the first time that the Polisario mentioned this French attack on a civilian target. The monograph also repeats reports that during French air force's raids on Saharan guerrilla columns last month, two Jaguar planes were down, one at Smilet Omar, southwest of the Mauritania of Boulanouar and the other five kms. south of Zoug.

One million Israelis down with the flu

TEL AVIV, Jan. 9 (AFP). — More than one million over a third of the country's population, are now suffering influenza, Prof. Emmanuel Ilan of the Medical Faculty Aviv University said yesterday. The epidemic is now at its peak, and although there seldom are complications, the country's leading doctors recommend that flu victims stay for three to five days.

Golda Meir discharged from hospital

TEL AVIV, Jan. 9 (R). — Former Prime Minister Golda Meir, 79, has returned home after spending a week in hospital because of fatigue, a spokesman for the Beilinson Medical said here yesterday. Mrs. Meir, Premier until 1974, left on Friday.

Fire on Eiffel Tower under control


PARIS, Jan. 9 (R). — The Eiffel Tower was in flames Saturday after an electrical fault set fire to the second landing of Paris' most famous landmark. Firemen battled the blaze for 40 minutes before it was brought under control. The huge iron tower, built in 1889, had been mounded thousands of lights for the Christmas and New Year feasts. A huge pall of smoke and flames belched from the 11 landing where an electrical control panel for the decorative lights was faulty, police said. Tourists up the tower were evacuated by stairways. Hundreds of bewildered Parisians rushed to watch the unexpected sight, as dozens of fire engines rushed to the spread-eagled base of the tower in the Paris.

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